

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a polarizing film comprising the step of dipping a polyvinyl alcohol film in/on which iodine is adsorbed and oriented in an aqueous solution containing boric acid wherein contact between the aqueous solution and oxygen is suppressed,

wherein a weight ratio of water:boric acid:potassium iodide in said aqueous solution containing boric acid is 100:(2-15):(2-20).

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the contact between said aqueous solution containing boric acid and oxygen is suppressed by adjusting an oxygen concentration in an atmosphere which is in contact with said aqueous solution to 5% by volume or less.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the contact between said aqueous solution containing boric acid and oxygen is suppressed by using an inactive gas as a gas which is in contact with said aqueous solution.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the dipping of said polyvinyl alcohol film in said aqueous solution containing boric acid is carried out while bubbling said inactive gas in said aqueous solution.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein said inactive gas is nitrogen, helium or argon.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol film is dipped in said aqueous solution containing boric acid while said aqueous solution is treated with activated carbon continuously or intermittently.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein a temperature of said aqueous solution containing boric acid is from 50 to 85°C, and a dipping time is from 90 to 1,200 seconds.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol film has a polymerization degree of 1,500 to 5,000.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol film in/on which iodine is adsorbed and oriented is a film produced by uniaxially stretching an unstretched polyvinyl alcohol film in water and then dipping it in a solution containing iodine and potassium iodide, a film produced by dipping an unstretched polyvinyl alcohol film in a solution containing iodine and potassium iodide and then uniaxially stretching it, a film produced by uniaxially stretching an unstretched polyvinyl alcohol film in a solution containing iodine and potassium iodide, a film produced by uniaxially stretching an unstretched polyvinyl alcohol film in a plurality of dipping steps, or a film produced by uniaxially stretching an unstretched

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polyvinyl alcohol film in a dry state and then dipping it in a solution containing iodine and potassium iodide.